

Prepare! Don't Let Severe Weather Take You by Storm, Sign Up for City Alerts

As spring emerges, Horseshoe Bay residents are often blessed with spectacular wildflower shows and seas of intoxicating bluebonnets. With warmer, humid weather also comes severe weather season.

Spring storm season in Texas usually rears its wild and windy head in March and continues through June. Thunderstorms and related weather events, such as hailstorms, tornadoes and flash flooding, occur more frequently in spring due to warm, humid air coming from the Gulf of Mexico meeting with colder, drier air from the north. On average, these storms can last from 30 minutes to an hour.

Before severe weather strikes, there are actions you can take to protect your home and loved ones. Preparation is key to staying safe and minimizing impacts!

- **Be Weather-Ready:** Check the forecast regularly to determine the risk for severe weather. Local news stations and NOAA Weather Radio (www.weather.gov/nwr) can help you stay informed. Check Weather-Ready Nation (www.weather.gov/wrn) for tips.
- **Sign Up for Notifications:** The CivicReady communications solution allows the City to issue urgent notifications, emergency instructions, warnings, and non-emergency communications to subscribers via email, text message, and voicemail. Visit www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov and click on the IMPORTANT UPDATES banner at the top of the homepage to learn more.
- **Create a Communications Plan:** Have a family plan that includes an emergency meeting place, usually a safe room in your home such as a basement, storm cellar, or interior room on the lowest floor with no windows. Get more ideas for a plan at www.ready.gov/make-a-plan.
- **Practice Your Plan:** Conduct a family severe weather drill regularly so everyone knows what to do if damaging wind or large hail is approaching. Make sure all members of your family know where to go when severe thunderstorm warnings are issued and make a plan to protect pets.
- **Prepare Your Home:** Keep trees and branches trimmed near your house. If you have time before severe weather hits, secure loose objects outdoors, close windows and doors, and move any valuable objects inside or under a sturdy structure.
- **Help Your Neighbor:** Encourage your fellow residents to prepare for severe weather events. Consider taking CPR training so you can help if someone gets hurt.

Are You Signed Up for CivicReady Alerts?

The City of Horseshoe Bay uses CivicReady to send mass emergency and non-emergency notifications to subscribers via email, text message, and voicemail to keep citizens safe and informed. During a local emergency, residents subscribed to CivicReady will benefit from immediate, actionable information sent via their preferred notification methods.

CivicReady is intended to be used for incidents that may have a significant impact on residents. Emergency alerts may be related to hazards that require action (evacuation, sheltering in place) or even broken water lines. Non-emergency alerts include transportation issues or ongoing police or fire activity. This list is not all-inclusive. In addition to receiving information on your wireless device, you may also receive notifications on your landline (if you have one), depending on the type of incident.

By signing up, residents will receive alerts based on preferences selected during the sign-up process. Sign up by visiting the HSB website (www.horseshoe-bay-tx.gov) and clicking on the IMPORTANT

UPDATES banner at the top of the homepage. If you wish to subscribe to SMS text messages only, text your zip code to 38276. Providing your address and method(s) of contact will allow you to tailor your preferences so you do not receive alerts that don't pertain to your area. These alerts are provided free of charge, though standard text messaging rates and other charges may apply.

Be sure to follow the City of Horseshoe Bay on Facebook (www.facebook.com/horseshoebaygov) and Instagram (www.instagram.com/horseshoebaygov).